

Application No: 10/576,036
Amendment B
Reply to Office Action Dated 03/26/2007

Attorney Docket No: 3926.246

REMARKS

Claims 7-12 are pending in the application. Claim 7 has been amended. Claims 1-6 have been previously cancelled.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 7-12 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Surace et al. (US 6,144,938).

The Examiner has stated in the section "Response to Arguments" that Applicants' arguments (i.e., the dialog step always begins with a shortened prompt, so that it is always possible for the user (expert) to take initiative, that is to say he always has the possibility of deciding about the type of dialog) are not supported by the claims language.

The language of claim 7 has been now modified to clearly recite that each iteration of the method starts with a shortened prompt, namely the dialog step always begins with a shortened prompt. In contrast, in Surace et al. the dialog step in each iteration does not necessarily start with a shortened prompt, but rather the type of initial prompt is selected based on various context situations, such as previously selected prompt and the user's experience with using the voice user interface (see the abstract).

Claim 7 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over Surace et al. Since all the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 7, they are believed to be patentable as well.

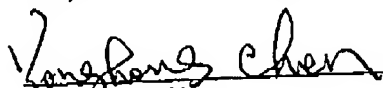
Favorable consideration and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully

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requested. Should further issues remain prior to allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the indicated telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,



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